

COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD

Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report (1.5.2015 – 31.8.2015)

**Purpose**

This paper aims to provide Members a general overview on management and protection work conducted by the Country and Marine Parks Authority during the period between 1.5.2015 – 31.8.2015. It provides various figures and information for facilitating Members to discuss and offer advice to the Authority regarding the management of country and marine parks.

**A. Country Parks & Special Areas**

**1. Country Parks Management**

**1.1 Management Services**

Routine maintenance of all recreational facilities within county parks and special areas was carried out regularly for public enjoyment. Major country parks facilities provided and amount of refuse collected are shown below for reference.

Major facilities provided for public enjoyment

Item	Total at 31.8.2015	Item	Total at 31.8.2015
Barbecue Site	178	Shelters	291
Picnic Site	165	Refreshment Kiosk	8
Camp Site	41	Flushing Toilet	49
Morning Walker Garden	22	No. of Portable Toilet	118

Amount of refuse collected (tonnes)

May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15	Total
277	243	234	246	1,000

## 1.2 Fire Protection

The 2014-2015 fire season completed on 1.5.2015. Detailed figures are summarized below:-

Month	No. of fires inside or threatening country park		Area affected (Ha)		No. of trees affected	
		( )		( )		( )
May, 15	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Jun., 15	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Jul., 15	0	(1)	0	(0.3)	0	(0)
Aug., 15	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Total	0	(1)	0	(0.3)	0	(0)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 1.3 Permitted Events

In the reporting period, 187 permits were given under Reg. 11 of the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulation to hold events in country parks. Most of these events were related to sport competition, location filming and raising funds for charity.

## 1.4 Control of Development

A total of 41 development proposals were received. There was no objection to 18 of them, the other 22 were being processed and one was cancelled. Most of these were related to minor works concerning electricity supply and slope works.

## 2. **Visitor Services/Education**

### 2.1 Visitor Statistics

In the reporting period, a total of 3,719,000 persons visited the country parks and special areas. The monthly breakdown is as below for reference.

Month	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15
No. of Visitors	931,000	963,000	882,000	943,000

## 2.2 Visitor Centres

In the reporting period, a total of 8,279 persons joined the guided tours organized by the Country Park Visitor Centres and Education Centres. The monthly visitor statistics of the Country Park Visitor Centres and Education Centres are summarized below:-

Country Park Visitor Centre/ Education Centre	No. of Visitors			
	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15
Lions Nature Education Centre	21,368	20,288	20,624	31,952
Sai Kung Country Park Visitor Centre	6,122	5,665	5,391	7,425
Shing Mun Country Park Visitor Centre	1,626	3,013	2,851	3,088
Tai Mo Shan Country Park Visitor Centre	1,740	1,368	792	1,560
Ngong Ping Nature Centre	2,788	4,354	4,745	5,979
Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre	3,274	1,562	1,752	1,602
Aberdeen Tree Centre	734	277	421	316
Volcano Discovery Centre	13,845	11,766	11,608	13,906

## 2.3 Country Park Volunteer Scheme

The Country Park Volunteer Scheme has been commenced since March 2010. Detailed figures of the Country Park Volunteer Scheme in the reporting period are summarized below:-

Country Park Volunteer Scheme	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15
No. of volunteers/ trainees	665	665	862	862
Total volunteer service hours	1,599.5	1,337.5	1,315.5	1,941.5

## 2.4 School Visit Programme

School visit programme was launched again in 2014-15 school year to convey nature conservation message to students. Detailed figures of the programme in the reporting period are summarized below:-

School Visit Programme	No. of Participants
Kindergartens	3,359
Primary Schools	6,194
Secondary Schools	625

## 2.5 Other Education Activities

Details of the education activities organized in the reporting period are summarized below:-

Name of the Activity	Date	No. of Participants	Remarks
Country Park Visitor Centre Family Day	22-23 August 2015	364	–

## 2.6 Assistance

Assistance was offered to the public on:-

Nature	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15
First aid	10	4	6	8
Handicapped persons	0	1	0	0
Return of lost properties	1	2	3	3

## 2.7 Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Nature	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15
Pamphlets	3,138	3,722	3,959	4,255
Posters	77	83	78	87
Booklets	908	1,076	932	800

### 3. Law Enforcement

A total of 224 enforcement actions were taken in connection with the Country Parks Ordinance, Forests and Countryside Ordinance and Wild Animals Protection Ordinance. A breakdown of offences is summarized below:

Nature of offence	No. of cases *
Illegal entry of bicycle	112
Illegal entry of vehicle	50
Damaging and cutting of plant	10
Illegal displaying banner/sign	1
Illegal constructing/excavating of grave	1
Illegal holding sporting competition	1
Illegal operation of power driven model vehicle/aeroplane	1
Littering	22 <sup>#</sup>
Illegal possession of protected plant	1
Illegal feeding of monkey	25
Total	224

Remarks: \* No. of cases denotes the number of persons intercepted for an offence during the reporting period.

<sup>#</sup> Fixed Penalty Notice @\$1,500.

## B. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve

### 1. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve Management

#### 1.1 Facilities

As at 31.8.2015, the following facilities had been installed in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve:

Facilities	Total nos. at 31.8.2015	Facilities	Total nos. at 31.8.2015
Sign (various warnings)	134	Mooring buoy for divers	14
Park sign	20	Boundary post	17
Sign (various purposes)	55	Sign post	10
Boundary marker buoy	6	Information board	1
Marker buoy	36	Litter bin	16
Buoy for Mechanized Vessel Restricted Zone	131	Banner	-
Buoy for Inboard Vessel Prohibited Zone	4	Way mark	20

#### 1.2 Litter

During the report period, the amount of litter collected in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve is as follows:

Marine Park / Marine Reserve	Nos. of tonnage				
	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15	Total
Hoi Ha Wan	6.54	6.28	7.00	6.10	25.92
Yan Chau Tong	4.18	3.60	4.64	4.46	16.88
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	10.00	9.61	10.20	10.35	40.16
Tung Ping Chau	9.16	8.66	7.02	8.46	33.30
Cape D'Aguiar	1.50	1.63	1.74	1.55	6.42
Total	31.38	29.78	30.60	30.92	122.68

## 2. Visitor Services / Education

### 2.1 Visitor Statistics

During the report period, the number of visitors is as follows:

Marine Park	Nos. of Visitors				
	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15	Total
Hoi Ha Wan	3,630	3,699	4,833	6,463	18,625
Yan Chau Tong	1,944	1,457	1,771	1,047	6,219
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	454	168	169	430	1,221
Tung Ping Chau	3,891	2,993	2,901	3,788	13,573
Total	9,919	8,317	9,674	11,728	39,638

### 2.2 Enquiries

During the report period, a total of 179 enquiries was received and answered. Details are listed below:

Nature	Nos.				
	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15	Total
Park facilities	5	4	6	14	29
Education activities	16	21	14	12	63
Renewal for fishing permit	23	25	13	22	83
Ordinance and regulations	3	1	-	-	4
Total	47	51	33	48	179

All enquiries have been resolved.

### 2.3 Distribution of Educational and Publicity Materials

During the report period, a total of 4,982 educational and publicity materials were distributed to the public. Details are listed below:

Items	Nos.				
	May, 15	Jun., 15	Jul., 15	Aug., 15	Total
Posters	1,900	-	-	-	1,900
Leaflets	-	6	460	580	1,046
Bookmarks	121	220	153	388	882
Others	302	451	30	371	1,154
Total	2,323	677	643	1,339	4,982

## 2.4 Educational and Publicity Activities

During the report period, a total of 37 educational/publicity activities involving 1,530 participants were organized. Details are listed below:

Items	Nos.	Nos. servicing Ambassador	Total nos. of participant
Education Activities			
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park Ecotour	9	-	77
School Guided Tour	11	-	283
School Field Study	1	-	30
School Seminar	7	-	606
Marine Parks Public Seminar 2015	4	-	480
Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme			
Hong Kong Reef Check 2015 opening ceremony	1	12	12
Hong Kong Reef Check 2015 technical seminar	1	6	6
Mangrove workshop	1	9	9
Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme training workshop	1	-	18
Tung Ping Chau visitor questionnaire survey	1	9	9
Total	37	36	1,530

2.5 During the report period, Marine Parks Ambassador participated in the following volunteer services: Hong Kong Reef Check 2015 opening ceremony, Hong Kong Reef Check 2015 technical seminar, mangrove workshop, Tung Ping Chau visitor questionnaire survey. A total of 36 ambassadors joined the above activities. In addition, a Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme training workshop was organized, a total of 18 students joined the workshop.

2.6 Up to 31 August 2015, a total of 110 Marine Parks Ambassadors have completed 20 hours services; 44 Ambassador have completed 40 hours services; 22 Ambassadors have completed 70 hours services; 15 Ambassadors have completed 100 hours services, 10 Ambassadors have completed 150 hours services and four Ambassadors completed 200 hours service. They were awarded with the “Jellyfish Service Badge”, “Nautilus Service Badge”, “Fiddler Crab Service Badge”, “Starfish Service Badge”, “Humphead Wrasse Service Badge” and “Chinese White Dolphin Service Badge” respectively. Until the end of August 2015, the accumulated service hours of marine parks ambassadors are 8,269.5 hours.



### 3. Law Enforcement and Advice

During the report period, a total of 3,056 advices and 52 verbal warnings were given to fishermen and visitors and 6 prosecutions were taken against offenders in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve.

Nature of offence	Nos. of prosecution	Nos. completed hearing	Fines (HK\$)
Pleasure fishing	2	2	2,000
Other	4	5	13,200
Total	6	7	15,200

During the report period, the prosecution cases are not necessarily the same as the completed hearing cases.

### C. Advice Sought

Members are invited to comment on the management and protection work conducted by the Country and Marine Parks Authority in country and marine parks.

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  
October 2015